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STATINTL**LETTERS TO THE STAR****CPY Patent Office Site**

"Why move the Patent Office 40 miles from its present site"? This question is particularly pertinent when some 400 acres of land adjacent the CIA is owned by the Department of Commerce, is about seven miles from downtown Washington, adjacent the new Cabin John Bridge, is accessible from downtown Washington on an average of 15 minutes, and is quite close to the new circumferential highway and the Dulles Airport.

Use of the Langley site will cost the Government nothing for additional land, will take no land off the tax rolls of Fairfax County, and is by far the most convenient location mentioned.

Some question has been raised concerning the location of the Patent Office at Langley being in conflict with the Year 2000 Plan. This is contrary to the facts. The placing of the Patent Office adjacent the CIA would simply add population and in no sense do violence to the Year 2000 Plan.

The location of the Patent Office at Langley has the overwhelming approval of employees and a survey shows that if applied to the present personnel in the Patent Office, driving time to the proposed new Langley site would be seven minutes less on the average than it is to the present building. The average driving time for attorneys practicing before the Patent Office who reside in the Washington area shows 26 minutes from their residences to the new site. There are currently 17 buses scheduled each day to Langley, which undoubtedly would increase with demand.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Planning Staff, Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, Northern Virginia Builders

Association, and McLean Business and Professional Association have indicated approval of the location of the Patent Office at Langley.

The Langley site should be selected and, if necessary, Congress should make this designation rather than select some site 25 or 30 miles away where land must be bought by the Federal Government and taken off the tax rolls, thus depriving the locality of this revenue.

Charles E. Fenwick,
State Senator, Virginia, 22d District.

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